

a special case in view of paucity of funds with State Government of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). For expeditious completion of some of the Nationally important irrigation projects in the country including inter-State projects, it has been contemplated to provide special Central assistance to the States. Additional Central assistance for externally assisted projects is being made available in accordance with the existing guidelines.

New Telephone Exchanges under Calcutta Telephones

7164. **SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up modern telephone exchange in Hooghly district under Howrah area of Calcutta telephones; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Five telephone exchanges namely Chander Nagar, Chinsurah, Triveni, Uttarpara and Serampore are working in Hooghly District under Howrah area of Calcutta Telephones:

- (i) An electronic exchange (RLU) is already working at Chander Nagar.
- (ii) Replacement of existing telephone exchanges at Chinsurah and Triveni by electronic exchanges has been planned during 1992-93.
- (iii) Telephone exchanges at Uttarpara

and Serampore will also be replaced by electronic exchanges on expiry of their useful life.

Minor Irrigation Projects of A&N Islands

7165. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any study on minor irrigation projects in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands for providing irrigation facilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Water Commission have conducted investigations in North, Middle, South and Little Andaman and Great Nicobar Islands. Four Minor Irrigation Schemes were prepared, two each in Little Andaman and Great Nicobar Islands, in addition to the recommendations for Diglipur and Kalara schemes in North Andaman and Rangat in Middle Andaman Islands. Subsequently Korangnallah Minor Irrigation Schemes in Middle Andaman was also finalised. Two schemes in Little Andaman have been taken up for execution which are likely to be completed in 1992 and 1994. Technical approval for Prem Bahadur Nallah and Swarcoop Nallah Minor Irrigation Schemes in Great Nicobar and Korangnallah scheme in Middle Andaman have been given by Central Water Commission.

Development of Gas Based Projects in Southern Regions

7166. **SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI:** Will the Minister of POWER